

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

Address : COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08397636	3/2/95	HARVEY ET AL.	05634/012

GOODWIN PROCTER LLP
901 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

EXAMINER

PETER-ANTHONY PAPPAS

ART UNIT	PAPER
----------	-------

2628	20100624
------	----------

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

It is noted that for each NPL document, listed on the respective PTO-1449 forms filed in the instant application, without date information a "no date" annotation has been assigned by the examiner to each as the date information was not readily obtainable.

/Peter-Anthony Pappas/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2628

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. A double patenting administrative requirement is not being required by the examiner in the instant application since the examiner has independently conducted a double patenting analysis of the claims in the instant application.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Carl L. Benson on 6/30/10.

The application has been amended as follows: **see the attached claims.**

3. Claims 52, 56, 57, 66, 67, 72, 73, 88-90, 244-251, 263-266, 270-288 and 290 are allowed. In regard to said claims the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the respective claim limitations when considered as a whole.
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PETER-ANTHONY PAPPAS whose telephone number is (571) 272-7646. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00AM-5:30PM.

Art Unit: 2628

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ulka Chauhan can be reached on 571-272-7782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Peter-Anthony Pappas/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2628

Art Unit: 2628

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently amended) A method of processing signals at a station, said station having a receiver for receiving a transmission, and a plurality of storage locations, each storage location capable of being commanded to store and output programming, said station capable of selecting between each of said plurality of storage locations and communicating said programming between each of said plurality of storage locations, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at said station, ~~an~~ a first information transmission including a first plurality of units of programming comprising at least one of television, radio, video, and audio, data, and computer programming;

demodulating said first information transmission;

detecting said first plurality of units of programming embedded in said first information transmission;

storing at least one of said first plurality of units of programming at a first storage location of said plurality of storage locations;

inputting command information at said station designating transmission data for a second plurality of units of programming comprising at least one of video and audio;

transferring, under computer control, said at least one said first plurality of units of programming stored at said first location to a second location of said plurality of storage locations in response to a said command information;

combining and storing, under computer control, said at least one of said first plurality of units of programming at said second storage location with other units of programming

Art Unit: 2628

including at least one of video and audio to enable said station to transfer form, at said second storage location, said second plurality of units of programming comprising at least one of video and audio, wherein said first plurality of units of programming, said other units of programming and said second plurality of units of programming differ from one another and each signal is directed toward television or radio; and

transmitting a second information transmission, consisting of said second plurality of units of programming from said second storage location to a ~~computer~~ remote station at a specific time or in response to said command information, wherein said station and said remote station differ in terms of functionality from one another.

53-55. (Cancelled)

56. (Currently amended) The method of claim 52 further comprising the step of receiving and identifying a signal instructing said station to communicate said at least one of said first plurality of units of programming to an output device.

57. (Currently amended) The method of claim 56 further comprising the step of communicating, in response to said signal, said at least one of said first plurality of units of programming from said second storage location to said output device.

58-65. (Cancelled)

66. (Currently amended) A method of processing signals at a station comprising the steps of:

receiving, at said station, one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission including video;

demodulating, at said station, said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission, said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission including ~~an~~ embedded ~~signal~~ signal identification signals;

detecting, at said station, said embedded ~~signal~~ signal identification signals on said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission;

~~selecting information stored~~ storing video selected from said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission at a first storage location at said station in response to said embedded signal identification signals;

~~transferring said information, under computer control, at least one video signal from said first storage location to a second storage location at said station based on said embedded signal, thereby providing a computer access to said information; said first storage location and said second storage location being capable of being commanded to store and output programming~~ identification signals;

combining and storing, under computer control, said at least one video signal with other signals including video to form, at said second storage location, a plurality of video signals, wherein said at least one video signal, said other signals and said plurality of video signals differ from one another and each signal is directed toward television; and

transmitting a second transmission consisting of said plurality of video signals from said second storage location at said station to at least one remote receiver station based on said embedded identification signals, wherein said station and said remote receiver station differ in terms of functionality from one another.

67. (Currently amended) The method of claim 66, ~~wherein said information includes at least one of television and radio programming, and wherein said step of selecting said information includes selecting said at least one of television and radio programming stored at said first storage location in response to said embedded signal; and wherein said step of transferring said information includes transferring, under computer control, said selected at least one of television and radio programming from said first storage location to said second storage location, and said method further comprising the step of:~~

further comprising the step of communicating, under computer control, said at least one of television and radio programming plurality of video signals stored at said second storage location to an output device in response to a second embedded signal on said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission.

68-71. (Cancelled)

Art Unit: 2628

72. (Currently amended) A transmission station apparatus for communicating a transmission including units of programming, said apparatus comprising:

a receiver for receiving an information transmission from an origination station, said information transmission including ~~said~~ a first plurality of units of programming including television programming, said information transmission also including programming identification signals identifying said plurality of units of programming;

a receiving device for receiving input command information designating transmission data for a second plurality of units of programming;

a first storage device connected to said receiver for storing at least one of said first plurality of units of programming;

a second storage device connected to said first storage device, said second storage device storing ~~said~~ units of programming output by said first storage device;

a switch connected to said first storage device and said second storage device;

a computer connected to said first storage device, said second storage device, and said switch for controlling said first storage device to output said at least one of said first plurality of units of programming to said second storage device and controlling said second storage device to output ~~said~~ a second plurality of units of programming including television programming to said switch, said computer ~~being capable of~~:

(1) ~~selecting a storage device to store~~ combining, under computer control, said at least one of said first plurality of units of programming with other units of programming including television programming to form, at said second storage device, said second plurality of units of programming in accordance with said command information, wherein said first plurality of units of programming, said other units of programming and said second plurality of units of programming differ from one another and each unit of programming comprise at least one of video and audio;

(2) ~~commanding said switch to transfer said programming to said selected storage device~~; and

Art Unit: 2628

(3) commanding said ~~selected~~ second storage device to store said second plurality of units of programming; and ~~a cable network~~

a transmitter connected to said switch for receiving said second plurality of units of programming output from said second storage device and communicating said second plurality of units of programming to a plurality of subscriber stations, wherein said transmission station, said origination station and said plurality of subscriber stations differ in terms of functionality from one another.

73. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 72, further comprising:

a signal encoder connected to said computer for encoding an identification signal ~~on said programming~~ with said second plurality of units of programming;

a channel modulator connected to said switch and to ~~said~~ a cable network, said channel modulator modulating a signal including said second plurality of units of programming output by said second storage device through said switch, said cable network communicating said modulated programming signal to said subscriber; and

a verification circuit connected to at least one of said switch, said cable network, and said channel modulator for verifying at least one of the time, channel, and frequency of transmission of said programming signal including said second plurality of units of programming, said verification circuit comprising a signal decoder for decoding said encoded identification signal.

74-87. (Cancelled)

88. (Currently amended) A method for identifying communicating television programming in one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission station that has a storage device having (i) at least two storage locations each ~~capable of~~ storing a television signal, and (ii) a control device ~~capable of~~ controlling said storage device and identifying said television programming on the basis of identification information stored at said storage device, said method comprising the steps of:

Art Unit: 2628

receiving a first transmission including a first plurality of units of television programming, said first transmission including identification information identifying said units of television programming;

inputting said identification information that identifies said units of television programming to a computer at said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission station;

inputting at least one of said units of television programming to said storage device;

combining and storing, under computer control, said at least one of said units of television programming with other units of television programming at a selected one of said at least two storage locations to form, at said selected location, a second plurality of units of television programming, wherein said first plurality of units of television programming, said other units of television programming and said second plurality of units of television programming differ from one another and each comprise at least one of video and audio; and

storing said identification information with said second plurality of units of television programming at said selected location; and

identifying communicating from said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission station to at least one remote receiver station a second transmission consisting of said second plurality of units of television programming on the basis of said identification information stored with said second plurality of units of television programming, wherein said one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission station, and said remote receiver station differ in terms of functionality from one another.

89. (Currently amended) The method of claim 88 further comprising storing information that identifies said selected one of said at least two storage locations where said at least one of said units of television programming is stored.

90. (Currently amended) A method for ~~identifying~~ communicating television programming ~~in a broadcast and cablecast from a~~ transmission station that has storage means having a first and a second storage location, wherein said storage means ~~is capable of holding~~ holds at least two units of said television programming, and computer control means ~~capable of controlling~~ said storage means and ~~for~~ identifying a selected unit of television

Art Unit: 2628

programming on the basis of identification information associated with said selected unit, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving at said transmission station a first transmission including a first plurality of units of television programming,

inputting identification information that specifies a ~~unit of said~~ a second plurality of units of television programming;

~~inputting said unit~~ combining, under computer control of said computer control means, at least one of said first plurality of units of television programming associated with other units of television programming to form said second plurality of units of television programming in accordance said inputted identification information, wherein said first plurality of units of television programming, said other units of television programming and said second plurality of units of television programming differ from one another and each unit of programming comprise at least one of video and audio;

~~identifying said unit of said television programming;~~

storing said ~~unit~~ second plurality of units of television programming at said first storage location; and

~~storing said identification information at said second storage location, thereby to enable said station to identify said unit stored in the first storage location~~ transmitting a second transmission consisting of said second plurality of units of television programming from said transmission station to a plurality of receiver stations on the basis of said identification information stored in said second storage location, wherein said transmission station and said plurality of receiver stations differ in terms of functionality from one another.

91 – 243. (Cancelled)

244. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~located at a receiver station~~ for processing signals, said apparatus comprising:

a programming storage device for storing at least one of radio programming and television programming;

Art Unit: 2628

~~an input device for inputting~~ a receiver for receiving said at least one of radio programming and television programming;

a signal detector operatively connected to said programming storage device for detecting identification signals stored embedded in said programming storage device at least one of radio programming and television programming;

a communicator, operatively connected to said programming storage device, for communicating said at least one of radio programming and television programming ~~and information identifying said at least one of radio programming and television programming~~ to a subscriber;

a computer operatively connected to said ~~input device~~ receiver, said signal detector and said communicator, wherein said computer is programmed to perform the following steps:

(a) ~~receiving~~ causing said receiver to receive a first transmission from an origination station including a first plurality of units of programming of said at least one of radio programming and television programming ~~from said input device;~~

(b) ~~receiving said information identifying said at least one of radio programming and television programming~~ causing said signal detector to detect identification signals embedded in said first transmission ;

(c) selecting at least one of a plurality of storage locations on said programming storage device;

(d) ~~outputting said received at least one of radio programming and television programming to said programming storage device and controlling said programming storage device to store said outputted at least one of radio programming and television~~ of said first plurality of units of programming at said selected storage location of said programming storage device;

(e) ~~outputting said information identifying said at least one of radio programming and television programming to said programming storage device and controlling said programming storage device to store the information with said stored~~ other units of

Art Unit: 2628

programming of said at least one of radio programming and television programming at said selected storage location;

(f) causing said signal detector to detect said information identifying said at least one of ~~radio programming and television~~ said first plurality of units of programming stored on said programming storage device;

(g) ~~determining said selected storage location of said stored at least one of radio programming and television programming based on said step (f)~~ combining, under computer control, said at least one of said first plurality of units of programming with said other units of programming to form, at said selected storage location, a second plurality of units of programming of said at least one of radio programming and television programming, wherein said first plurality of units of programming, said other units of programming and said second plurality of units of programming differ from one another and each unit of programming comprise at least one of video and audio;

(h) controlling said programming storage device to output said ~~stored at least one of radio programming and television programming~~ second plurality of units of programming from said selected storage location to said communicator; and

(i) controlling said communicator to communicate ~~said at least one of radio programming and television~~ a transmission consisting of said second plurality of units of programming to said subscriber, wherein said origination station and said apparatus differ in terms of functionality from one another.

245. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 244, wherein said ~~input device~~ further comprises:

~~a receiver for receiving and demodulating~~ receives and demodulates a carrier transmission including said at least one of radio programming and television programming.

246. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 245, said apparatus further comprising:

Art Unit: 2628

a second detector operatively connected to said receiver and said computer for detecting signals in said carrier transmission.

247. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 246, wherein said second detector detects a signal instructing said computer to store said received at least one of radio programming and television programming, and wherein said computer performs at least one of said steps (c) - (e) in response to said second detector detecting said signal instructing said computer to store said received at least one of radio programming and television programming.

248. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 246, wherein said second detector detects a signal instructing said computer to communicate said ~~stored at least one of radio programming and television programming~~ second plurality of units of programming to said subscriber, and wherein said computer performs at least one of said steps (f) - (i) in response to said second detector detecting said signal instructing said computer to communicate.

249. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 244, said apparatus further comprising a programming ~~storage/playback~~ storage or playback device for receiving at least one of tapes and discs including prerecorded portions of said at least one of radio programming and television programming.

250. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 244, wherein said programming storage device further comprises a plurality of programming storage devices, and wherein said step (c) further comprises the step of:

selecting a first ~~at least one~~ of said plurality of programming storage devices for storing said ~~received at least one of radio programming and television~~ first plurality of units of programming.

251. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 250, said apparatus further comprising:

a switch operatively connected between said plurality of programming storage devices and said communicator for selectively connecting a second ~~at least one~~ of said plurality of storage

Art Unit: 2628

devices to said communicator, and wherein said computer is programmed to further perform the step of:

at least one of configuring and controlling said switch to connect said second ~~at least one~~ of said plurality of storage devices to said communicator to allow said ~~at least one of radio programming and television~~ second plurality of units of programming to be communicated to the subscriber.

252-262.(Cancelled)

263. (Currently amended) A method of communicating at least one of television signals and radio signals in a network including an origination station that transmits signals, at least one intermediate station that receives and selectively transmits signals, and a subscriber station that receives signals from said at least one intermediate station, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at said at least one intermediate station from said origination station, a first transmission including a first plurality of units of programming including audio and at least one of television programming and radio programming, said transmission also including programming identification signals identifying said plurality of units of programming, wherein said origination station, said intermediate station and said subscriber station differ in terms of functionality from one another;

detecting said programming identification signals at said intermediate station;

inputting command information at said intermediate transmitter station designating transmission data for a second plurality of units of programming, wherein said second plurality of units of programming includes audio and at least one of television programming and radio programming;

storing at least one of television programming and radio programming said first plurality of units of programming at a first storage location in said network, said at least one of television programming and radio programming including at least audio at said at least one intermediate station;

Art Unit: 2628

~~transferring, under computer control, said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ said first plurality of units of programming from said first storage location to a second storage location ~~at a selected one of said at least one intermediate station~~ based on said command information and said programming identification signals;

~~combining and storing, under computer control, said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ said first plurality of units of programming at said second storage location with other units of programming, wherein said other units of programming include audio and at least one of television programming and radio programming, to enable ~~said selected one of said at least one intermediate station to communicate~~ form, at said second storage location, said second plurality of units of programming stored ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming from said second storage location to a subscriber station~~ in accordance with said command information, wherein said first plurality of units of programming, said other plurality of units of programming and said second plurality of units of programming differ from one another; and

~~communicating a programming identification signal from said origination station to said selected one of said at least one intermediate station, said programming identification signal identifying said at least one of television programming and radio programming stored at said second storage location;~~

~~detecting, at said selected one of said at least one intermediate station, said programming identification signal communicated from said origination station;~~

~~communicating a second transmission consisting of said at least one of television programming and radio programming identified by said programming identification signal from~~ second plurality of units of programming from said second storage location at said at least one intermediate station to said subscriber station based on ~~said step of detecting said programming identification signal~~ said command information and said programming identification signals.

Art Unit: 2628

264. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263, wherein said step of combining and storing said at least one of television programming and radio programming at said second storage location further comprises the steps of:

identifying said at least one of ~~television~~ said first plurality of said units of programming and ~~radio~~ said other units of programming; and

storing said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming in a file with identification information identifying said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ second plurality of units of programming at said second storage location to enable subsequent identification of said stored ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming.

265. (Currently amended) The method of claim 264, wherein said step of storing said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming in a file further comprises the step of:

embedding said identification information in said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming prior to said step of storing said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming with said identification information.

266. The method of claim 264, wherein said step of identifying further comprises the step of:

comparing said identified at least one of ~~television~~ said first plurality of said units of programming and ~~radio~~ other units of programming to previously stored information identifying a said second plurality of said at least one of television programming and radio units of programming.

267-269.(Cancelled)

270. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263 further comprising the step of:

receiving said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ first transmission from a remote location.

Art Unit: 2628

271. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263, wherein said step of storing said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming at said first storage location further comprises the step of:

loading said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming on a programming storage device.

272. (Currently amended) The method of claim 271, wherein said step of loading further comprises:

loading a tape including pre-recorded material including said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming onto a video tape ~~player/recorder~~ player or recorder, wherein said at least one of said first plurality of unit of programming comprise television programming.

273. (Currently amended) The method of claim 271, wherein said step of loading further comprises:

at least one of loading and storing said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming on a video disk storage unit, wherein said first plurality of unit of programming comprise television programming.

274. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263, wherein said step of storing said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming at said first storage location further comprises the steps of:

~~receiving said at least one of television programming and radio programming at said selected one of said at least one intermediate station;~~

selecting a said first storage location at said ~~one of said~~ at least one ~~selected~~ intermediate station; and

storing said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming at the selected first storage location at said ~~at of said~~ at least one intermediate station.

Art Unit: 2628

275. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263, wherein said network includes a plurality of intermediate stations and said step of storing at least one of said first plurality of units of programming at a first storage location in said network further comprises the steps of:

receiving said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ first transmission at said ~~a~~ selected one of said ~~at least one plurality of intermediate station stations~~;

selecting a first of a plurality of storage devices at said selected one of said ~~at least one plurality of intermediate station stations~~;

storing said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming on said first of said plurality of storage devices.

276. (Currently amended) The method of claim 275, wherein said step of transferring further comprises the steps of:

selecting a second of said plurality of storage devices at said selected one of ~~at least one said plurality of intermediate station stations~~; and

transferring, under computer control, said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming from said first of said plurality of storage devices to a ~~said second storage location device~~ at said selected one of ~~at least one said plurality of intermediate station stations~~.

277. (Currently amended) The method of claim 276, wherein said step of combining and storing said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming at said second storage location~~ further comprises the step of:

storing said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming at said second of said plurality of storage devices ~~to enable said selected one of at least one intermediate station to communicate said stored at least one of television programming and radio programming from said second of said plurality of storage devices to said subscriber station.~~

Art Unit: 2628

278. (Currently amended) The method of claim 277, wherein said step of communicating ~~said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ further comprises the step of:

communicating ~~said at least one of television programming and radio programming identified by said programming identification signal~~ second transmission from said second of said plurality of storage devices to said subscriber station based on ~~detecting~~ command information and said programming identification signal signals.

279. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263 further comprising:

logging said step of communicating ~~said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~.

280. (Currently amended) The method of claim 263, wherein said step of communicating ~~said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ further comprises the step of:

communicating identification information identifying said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ second plurality of units of programming with said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming from said second storage location~~ second transmission to said subscriber station.

281. (Currently amended) The method of claim 280 further comprising the step of:

logging said step of communicating ~~said at least one of television programming and radio programming to said subscriber station~~ second transmission.

282. (Currently amended) The method of claim 281, wherein said step of logging comprises the steps of:

detecting said identification information communicated ~~from said second storage location during said step of communicating said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ with said second transmission; and

recording information indicating that said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ second plurality of units of programming was communicated to said subscriber

Art Unit: 2628

station based on said ~~step of detecting said identification command~~ information and said programming identification signals.

283. (Currently amended) A method of communicating at least one of television signals and radio signals in a network including a plurality of stations, said plurality of stations including an origination station that transmits signals, at least one intermediate station that receives and selectively transmits signals, a plurality of storage devices, and a plurality of subscriber stations that receive signals from said at least one intermediate station, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at said at least one intermediate station from said origination station, a first transmission including a first plurality of units of programming each including audio and at least one of television programming and radio programming, wherein said origination station, said at least one intermediate station and said plurality of subscriber stations differ in terms of functionality from one another;

storing at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming at a first storage location at a first station of said plurality of stations in said network, said at least one of television programming and radio programming including at least audio said at least one intermediate station;

transferring, under computer control, said at least one of ~~television programming and radio programming~~ said first plurality of units of programming from said first storage location of the first station to a second storage location of said ~~first~~ at least one intermediate station;

combining and storing, under control computer, said at least one of television programming and radio programming said first plurality of units of programming at said second storage location with other units of programming, wherein said other units of programming include audio and at least one of television programming and radio programming, to enable selective transmission of said at least one of television programming and radio programming from said first station to a second station of said plurality of stations form, at said second storage location at said at least one intermediate station, a second

Art Unit: 2628

plurality of units of programming, wherein said second units of programming include audio and at least one of television programming and radio programming; and

communicating a second transmission consisting of said second plurality of units of programming from said second storage location at said at least one intermediate station to said plurality of subscriber stations, wherein said first plurality of units, said other units of programming and second plurality of units of programming differ from one another.

284. (Currently amended) The method of claim 283, ~~wherein at least one of said first station and said second station includes a selected intermediate station, said first storage location and said second storage location including first and second storage locations at said selected intermediate station, said method~~ further comprising the steps of:

communicating a programming identification signal from said origination station to said ~~selected~~ at least one intermediate station, said programming identification signal identifying said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming stored at said second storage location;

detecting, at said ~~selected~~ at least one intermediate station, said programming identification signal communicated from said origination station;

communicating said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second transmission consisting of said second plurality of units of programming identified by said programming identification signal from said second storage location to at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations in response to detecting said programming identification signal.

285. (Currently amended) The method of claim 284 further comprising the step of:

logging that said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming was communicated from said second storage location to at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations.

286. (Currently amended) The method of claim 285, wherein said step of logging further comprises the steps of:

Art Unit: 2628

detecting embedded identification data in said ~~communicated at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ second transmission; and

recording information indicating that said ~~at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ second plurality of units of programming was communicated based on said step of detecting.

287. (Currently amended) The method of claim 283, wherein said step of combining and storing at said second storage location further comprises the steps of:

identifying said at least one of ~~television~~ said first plurality of units of programming and radio said other units of programming;

embedding identification data in said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming, said identification data identifying said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second plurality of units of programming; and

storing said ~~at least one of television programming and radio~~ second of said plurality of units of programming with said embedded identification data at said second storage location; and

~~enabling communication of said at least one of television programming and radio programming from said second station to said third station of said plurality of stations.~~

288. (Currently amended) The method of claim 283, wherein said step of storing at a said first storage location includes storing ~~a first unit and a second unit of said at least one~~ two of television programming and radio said first plurality of units of programming on a first of said plurality of storage devices, said step of combining and storing ~~said at least one of television programming and radio programming~~ at a second storage location further comprising the steps of:

(a) reordering said ~~first unit and second unit~~ said at least two of said first plurality of units of programming into a new order; and

(b) storing said ~~first unit and second unit~~ at least two of said first plurality of units of programming on a second of said plurality of storage devices in said new order.

Art Unit: 2628

289. (Cancelled)

290. (Currently amended) A network of stations comprising:

an origination station including a transmitter for transmitting at least one of television programming and radio programming with programming identification signals, said at least one of television programming and radio programming including at least audio;

a plurality of intermediate stations for receiving, processing and selectively retransmitting said at least one of television programming and radio programming with the programming identification signals received from said origination station, each of said plurality of intermediate stations including:

(a) a receiver for receiving an first information transmission including a first plurality of units of programming including said at least one of television programming and radio programming with the programming identification signals from said origination station;

(b) a signal detector for detecting the programming identification signals;

(c) a plurality of programming storage devices for storing ~~said~~ at least one of ~~television programming and radio programming~~ said first plurality of units of programming;

(d) a computer operatively connected to said receiver, said signal detector and said plurality of programming storage devices, said computer programmed to perform the following steps:

(1) selecting said at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming received by said receiver based on the programming identification signals detected by said signal detector;

(2) routing the selected at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming to a first of said plurality of programming storage devices;

(3) controlling said first of said plurality of programming storage devices to store the selected at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ first plurality

Art Unit: 2628

of units of programming on said first of said plurality of programming storage devices;

(4) transferring the selected at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming from said first of said plurality of programming storage devices to a second of said plurality of programming storage devices;

(5) controlling said second of said plurality of programming storage devices to combine and store, under computer control, the selected at least one of ~~television programming and radio~~ said first plurality of units of programming with other programming units including at least one of television programming and radio programming on said second of said plurality of programming storage devices to form, at said second of said plurality of programming storage devices, a second plurality of units of programming including at least one of television programming and radio programming, wherein said first plurality of units of programming, said other plurality of units of programming and said second plurality of units of programming differ from one another and each unit of programming comprise at least one of video and audio; and

(6) communicating ~~the selected at least one of television programming and radio~~ a second information transmission consisting of said second plurality of units of programming from said second of said plurality of programming storage devices to a subscriber station, wherein said origination station, said plurality of intermediate stations and said subscriber station differ in terms of functionality from one another; and

the subscriber station comprising a receiver for receiving ~~programming~~ said second information transmission.

291-399.(Cancelled)